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July 2, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1653

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/903,864; Filed: July 13, 2001
For: **Methods and Compositions for Rapid Protein and Peptide Extraction
and Isolation Using a Lysis Matrix**
Inventors: Blakesley *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.5050002/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17);
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
4. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 for \$1,072.00 to cover:

\$950.00 Extension for response within third month;
36.00 Claims in excess of twenty; and
86.00 Independent claims in excess of three; and

5. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
July 2, 2004
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Aaron L. Schwartz
Agent for Applicants
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ALS/dab
283931_1.DOC
Enclosures